

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

1. (previously presented) A housing for a refrigerator, comprising:

a body defining an interior and having:

at least one side part formed from a panel of flat material;

side walls; and

a front side with an opening open to said interior;

vertical border strips and horizontal end bars surrounding said opening, at least one of said border strips together with at least one of said side walls being a constituent part of said at least one side part;

said side part having a joining element for joining said side part together with at least one of said end bars; and

said at least one end bar being introduced into said joining element, and subjecting said border strip to a force having an effect of widening an angle at which said border strip is connected to said side wall.

2. (previously presented) The housing according to claim 1, wherein:

said at least one end bar has a front side and a rear side; and

said joining element forms a clamp clamping in said at least one end bar between at least two points of contact on a respective one of said front and rear sides, said two points of contact each being spaced apart by different distances from a side wall of said body.

3. (previously presented) The housing according to claim 2, wherein said at least one end bar has a joint-on buffer body forming at least one of said points of contact.

4. (previously presented) The housing according to claim 2, wherein said point of contact on said rear side of said at least one end bar is located closer to an adjacent one of said side walls than said point of contact on said front side of said at least one end bar.

5. (previously presented) The housing according to claim 2, wherein:

said at least one end bar has a section with a thickness;

said clamp has two opposite legs defining a U-profile and a groove;

a distance between said two opposite legs is greater than said thickness of said section of said at least one end bar; and

said section engages in said clamp and extends obliquely through said groove of said U-profile between said two points of contact.

6. (original) The housing according to claim 1, wherein:

at least one of said border strips has an edge directed away from said side wall; and

said joining elements is connected integrally to said edge directed away from said side wall.

7. (original) The housing according to claim 1, wherein said joining element is connected elastically to said border strip.

8. (currently amended) The ~~body~~housing according to claim 1, wherein said joining element is connected rigidly to said border strip.

9. (currently amended) The ~~body~~housing according to claim 1, wherein said joining element is connected rigidly to side wall.

10. (currently amended) The ~~body~~housing according to claim 1, wherein said joining element is connected rigidly to one of the group consisting of said border strip and a side wall of said border strip.

11. (previously presented) The housing according to claim 7, wherein said joining element is retained by said at least one end bar in a position in which said joining element has been rotated elastically in relation to a position that said joining element assumes when not joined together with said at least one end bar.

12. (original) The housing according to claim 1, wherein said border strip is covered with a colored sheet material.

13. (original) The housing according to claim 1, wherein said side wall is free of a color coating at least in a rear region thereof.

14. (original) In a refrigerator body defining an interior and having a front side with an opening to the interior, vertical border strips and horizontal end bars surrounding the opening, at least one of the border strips, together with a side wall being a constituent part of a side part formed from a panel of flat material, a connection configuration comprising:

a joining element at the side part for joining the side part together with the end bar, the end bar being

introduced into said joining element and subjecting said border strip to a force having an effect of widening an angle at which the border strip is connected to the side wall.

15. (new) The housing according to claim 1, including said at least one end bar has a front side and a rear side; and

 said joining element forms an elastic clamp clamping in said at least one end bar between at least two points of contact on a respective one of said front and rear sides, clamping said end bar and said joining element together without further fastening elements, said two points of contact each being spaced apart by different distances from a side wall of said body.

16. (new) The housing according to claim 15, including said at least one end bar has a section with a thickness;

 said elastic clamp having two opposite legs defining a U-profile;

 a distance between said two opposite legs is greater than said thickness of said section of said at least one end bar; and

 said section engages in said elastic clamp and extends obliquely into said U-profile between said two points of contact.

17. (new) The housing according to claim 16, including said elastic clamp opposite legs includes a first leg of

said U-profile formed by bending a first portion of said side wall at an orthogonal angle from said side wall bending a second portion of said first portion back upon itself at an angle almost parallel but spaced from said first orthogonal portion to form said first leg, bending a third portion of said second portion at an angle orthogonal to said second portion to form an end portion of said U-profile and bending a fourth portion of said third portion at an orthogonal angle to said third portion to form said second leg of said U-profile, said first and second legs formed at a slight angle to one another slightly less than parallel.

18. (new) The housing according to claim 17, including forming a bead in said first leg adjacent the bend of said second portion to said first portion and said at least one end bar is formed to include a step which bears against said bead forming a first one of said two points of contact.

19. (new) The housing according to claim 18, including said second one of said two points of contact is between said at least one end bar and said second leg.